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AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 6, relative to underwater archeology.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-6-101(b)(2), is amended by inserting the language “underwater,” between the language “historic,” and “prehistoric”.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 11-6-102, is amended as follows:

(a) in item (4) by inserting the language “or water” between the language “of the earth” and “by hand”; and

(b) in item (7) by inserting the language “shipwrecks,” between the language “caves,” and “all”;

(c) by adding the following new items to be appropriately designated:

( ) “Diving” means any underwater activity using snorkel, SCUBA, submersible or surface air supply;

( ) “Submerged” means beneath or substantially beneath the territorial waters of the State;

( ) “Territorial waters” means the navigable waters of the State, and such other waters of the State as may be included within the terms lands beneath navigable waters as defined in the federal Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987;

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section , Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 11, Chapter 6, is amended by adding the following as a new section to be appropriately designated:

Section \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Since the Congress has found that the state has certain responsibilities under the Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987 (Public Law No. 100-298), the division of archeology shall:

(1) Develop a plan regarding significant shipwreck sites in Tennessee which will include management strategies for the preservation and conservation of shipwrecks;

(2) Recognize important events and geographic locations in the history and development of river navigation;

(3) Establish a geographic data base and an information system that can be used to locate, track, and cross-reference significant shipwrecks;

(4) Acquire or provide funds for the research and identification of shipwrecks; and

(5) Expend funds received from state appropriations and other sources to make grants to municipalities, counties, and non-profit organizations for the purpose of this act.

(b) The division is authorized in carrying out its purposes;

(1) To accept loans or grants, or both, of money, materials or property of any kind from the United States or any agency or instrumentality thereof upon such terms and conditions as the United States or such agency or instrumentality may impose.

(2) To receive and accept loans, gifts, grants, donations, or contributions of property, facilities, or services, with or without consideration from any person, firm, or corporation, or from the State of Tennessee or any agency or instrumentality thereof or from any county, municipal corporation or local government or governing body; and

(3) To hold, use, administer and expend such sum or sums as may hereafter be received as income, as gifts or as appropriations from the general assembly for any of the purposes of the division.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1995, the public welfare requiring it.